GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2515
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2005
EXPORT OF CHILLI
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Chilli exported during each of the last three years and the foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(b) Whether the Chilli exports has increased on a global demand, country-wise;

(c) If so, the details thereof and the extent it has increased;

(d) Whether the government is aware that despite UK objection on import of Indian Chilli powder the Indian Chilli is being successfully exported to these countries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith steps taken to improve the chilli exports?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

a) Export of chilli and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last 3 years is as follows:

Year	Quantity(Tornes)	Value (US$ Million)
2002-03	81,022	65.2
2003-04	86,575	80.0
2004-05	1,38,000	111.3

Source: Spices Board

(b) & (c) In quantity terms, export of chilli from India has increased by 59% in 2004-05 as compared to 2003-04. Country-wise, export of chilli has increased to USA, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, UAE, Mexico, UK, Indonesia, Pakistan, Egypt, Singapore, China etc. in 2004-05 as compared to 2003-04.

(d) & (e) Despite the recent controversy of `Product recall` in UK on account of alleged detection of Sudan in export consignments of chilli, the export of chilli to UK and EU has increased during the last 3 years, the details of which are as follows:

Year	Exports to UK (Quantity in tonnes)	Exports to EU (Quantity in tonnes)
2002-03	1,805	4,738
2003-04	2,440	5,240
2004-05	2,705 #	5,988 ##

Source: Spices Board
#Estimated
##Provisional

Steps taken to improve export of chilli are as follows;

@ Mandatory sampling and testing of chili and chilli products for Sudan I to IV and aflatoxin.
@ Adoption of Integrated Pest Management practices to reduce level of pesticide residues.
@ Adoption of hygienic drying of chilli on cemented/ concrete drying yards or polythene sheets.

@ Supply of polythene sheets at concessional rates to spice growers, particularly chilli growers.
@ Setting up of solar drier for drying chiliion cost sharing basis.
@ Encouraging exporters to procure chili from farmers who follow Integrated Pest Management practices and who dry chili using solar driers.
@ Supporting organic cultivation of papriKa like chilli with a view to capture the niche markets.
@ Providing training to growers with a view to educate them in post harvest handling of chillies.
@ Supporting exporters to upgrade processing technologies and laboratory facilities in order to meet stringent safety standarcs.